

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR

April 26, 2017

GOV. MSG. NO. 1111

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives Twenty-Ninth State Legislature State Capitol, Room 431 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Souki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on April 26, 2017, the following bill was signed into law:

SB283

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION ACT 011 (17)

Sincerely,

Governor, State of Hawai'i

THE SENATE
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2017
STATE OF HAWAII

ACT 0 1 1 S.B. NO. 283

JAN 2 0 2017

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Maui has no major
- 2 roadways commemorating veterans and their role in Maui history.
- 3 During World War II, Maui became a forward training center for
- 4 the war in the Pacific. Many of the beaches were used to
- 5 rehearse the invasion of Guadalcanal. To this day there are
- 6 remnants of concrete bunkers at some of the beaches in south
- 7 Maui. Native Hawaiians and cattle ranchers who lived on the
- 8 island of Kaho'olawe, a part of Maui county, were forced to move
- 9 and the island was made into a target range for the United
- 10 States Navy.
- 11 The legislature further finds that Puunene Airport was
- 12 built in 1938 by the Territory of Hawaii. In 1940, the United
- 13 States Navy started using the airport as a base for the Navy's
- 14 utility squadron VJ-3. The base was commissioned as "Naval Air
- 15 Station Maui" in 1942. When the Navy built a larger airport at
- 16 Kahului, it was renamed Puunene Naval Air Station. Puunene
- 17 Naval Air Station was used for fighter plane training and a base



1

S.B. NO. **283**

- 1 for small planes which towed targets for practice and retrieved
- 2 the parachutes of target flares. Puunene Naval Air Station was
- 3 used by the United States Navy and the United States Army.
- 4 After the war, Puunene Naval Air Station was transferred back to
- 5 the Territory of Hawaii.
- 6 According to the American Community Survey, which produces
- 7 population, demographic, and housing unit estimates for the
- 8 United States Census Bureau, in 2015, there were nine thousand
- 9 four hundred fifty-one veterans living on Maui, including one
- 10 thousand thirty Gulf War veterans (September, 2001 or later);
- 11 nine hundred twenty-five Gulf War veterans (August, 1990 to
- 12 August, 2001); three thousand nine hundred sixty-nine Vietnam
- 13 conflict veterans; seven hundred ninety-one Korean conflict
- 14 veterans; and six hundred ninety-four World War II veterans.
- In addition, Mokulele highway passes along the former
- 16 location of the Puunene airport, and the Maui army national
- 17 quard Puunene armory is located just off the highway, which
- 18 taken together, gives Mokulele highway a symbolic connection to
- 19 military history.
- The legislature finds that Mokulele highway has a clear
- 21 connection to Maui's military history and that the heroic

- 1 veterans living on Maui should be remembered for their sacrifice
- 2 to our country by naming a highway in their honor.
- 3 The purpose of this Act is to rename the Mokulele highway
- 4 to the Maui veterans highway.
- 5 SECTION 2. Route 311, known as Mokulele highway, on the
- 6 island of Maui shall be renamed the "Maui veterans highway".
- 7 SECTION 3. The renaming of Mokulele highway under this Act
- 8 shall not be deemed to affect any federal or state funding for
- 9 Mokulele highway.
- 10 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

11

APPROVED this 2 6 day of APR , 2017

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: March 7, 2017 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Third Reading in the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017.

President of the Senate

Clerk of the Senate

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: April 7, 2017 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Third Reading in the House of Representatives of the Twenty- ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017.

Speaker, House of Representatives

Clerk, House of Representatives